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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/661,324	09/12/2003	Bodo Ehlers	FHN-106-B	9310

7590 05/11/2006
Christopher A. Mitchell
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EXAMINER

GOLUB, MARCIA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2828

DATE MAILED: 05/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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101661324 APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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04262006

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

This communication includes the IDS that has been submitted on Feb 16, 2006 and a statement of reasons for allowance.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest an apparatus for shaping the output of a strip of semiconductor lasers or a stack of semiconductor laser bars, such that the non-light-emitting areas are eliminated from the output beam. The apparatus consists of a first and second reflective elements that allow transmission of part of the output beam and redirect the second part of the output beam in the first direction in the x,y plane and then in the second direction (z direction) parallel to the non-deflected beam.

English et al (5,381, 439) describes a similar apparatus, however the apparatus described by the reference uses a single copper vapor laser instead of a plurality of semiconductor laser. Also, the object of the reference is to distribute the output from a single laser beam to multiple receiving devices, thereby creating non-light-emitting areas. There reference is teaching away from the invention described by the applicant, since one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to use an apparatus for splitting a single output into multiple outputs to solve the problem of eliminating non-light-emissive areas from multiple lasers by combining them into a single output.

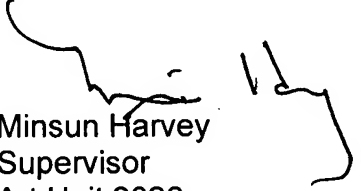
Art Unit: 2828

Fax/Telephone Info

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marcia A. Golub whose telephone number is 571-272-8602. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-6 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Minsun Harvey can be reached on 571-272-1835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Minsun Harvey
Supervisor
Art Unit 2828

MAG